



## RCMP "O" DIVISION CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

### Border Integrity Open Source Results for 2022-02-11

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
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| PROS File Number     | N/A                      |
| Prepared by          | O Division CAS           |
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#### AIM

To provide RCMP O Division with open source information identified on 2022-02-11 by 2000 hours, pertaining to the ongoing protests known as the "Freedom Convoy" at Ontario land and air ports of entry (POE) in Ontario.

#### KEY FINDINGS

- There is a significant amount of social media activity related to the Windsor Ambassador Bridge blockage.
  - Following the granting of an injunction, there are differing views being expressed by the protestors about whether to continue protesting or disperse.
  - Live-streamed video from YouTube user "The Transporter" shows that a number of protestors are still in place as of 18:30hrs.
  - s.37 is the dominant platform being used by the protestors at the Ambassador Bridge. While some s.37 excerpts are being publicly shared on other platforms, such as Twitter, this remains a significant gap.
- Little social media activity was observed related to planned protests in Sault Ste. Marie, Sarnia, Cornwall, Niagara, Kingston or at either the Toronto or Ottawa airports.
- Isolated messaging on social media platforms discussed the blocking rails across Canada. No imminent actions have been identified.

## NIAGARA REGION

Information was received from s.38 [REDACTED] advising of a gathering to occur on Saturday February 12, 2022 at 1100 hours in Tonawanda, NY (located between Niagara Falls, NY and Buffalo, NY). There will be a rally at noon with a convoy procession to the US side of the Peace Bridge at approximately 1300 hours. Estimated crowd size at this point is to be around 400-600 participants.

There is also a planned gathering on the Canadian side of the Peace Bridge at the same time. Depending on the number of participants attending and where they stage, cross border travel could be impacted by either event.

CN Rail Police are reporting they have observed isolated messaging on social media platforms dedicated to the freedom convoy discussed blocking rails across Canada. These were assessed by them as being aspirational in nature. No concrete actions have been identified yet.

The Niagara Region has numerous rail lines including the Fort Erie International Train Bridge. As with the land bridge POE's, vigilance of the Fort Erie International Train Bridge might be warranted. The rail line is a significant conduit for the movement of goods. If blocked, it could cause significant disruption in the delivery of products to both the US and Canada.

## CORNWALL-MASSENA

No post of concerns was observed since the last situation report.

## WINDSOR

There continues to be significant public discussion about the blockade at the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor. The majority of individuals involved in the protest appear to be communicating over s.37 [REDACTED]. Shortly after 1600 hours, the Ontario Superior Court issued an injunction preventing protestors from blocking the bridge. The injunction, which will be in place for ten days, takes effect today at 1900 hours.<sup>i</sup>



Figure 1: Tweet About Reaction to Granting of Injunction<sup>ii</sup>

Following the imposition of the injunction, there was disagreement amongst the protestors about how to respond (Figure 1). s.37 [REDACTED], Personal [REDACTED] (highlighted in the update at 1600hrs), was advocating for protestors to disperse and reconvene following the expiration of the order (Figure 2). However, a number of other protestors have apparently expressed their intention to defy the injunction and continue

protesting (Figure 3). As of 1830 hours, a live-streamed video from YouTube user "The Transporter," shows a number of protestors still in place.<sup>iii</sup>

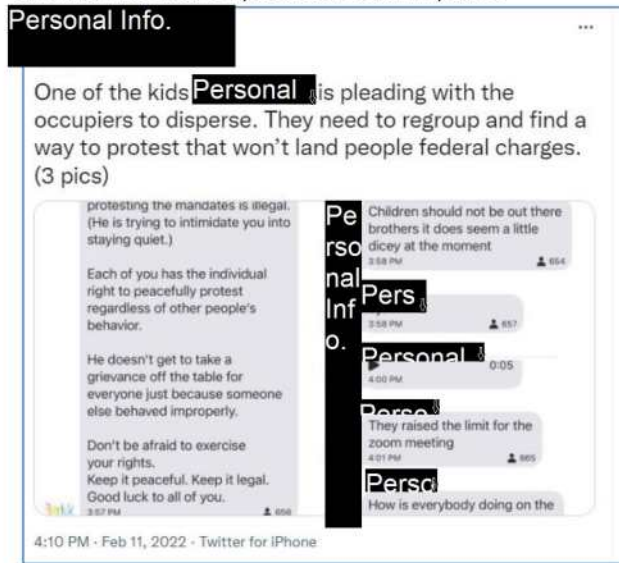


Figure 2: Twitter Post About s.37



Figure 3: Twitter Post about s.37

No further posts referencing the "warriors," members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) or any planned violence were observed. However, as noted earlier, the inability to directly access s.37 forums is a significant limitation.

#### SARNIA

No posts of concern have been noted since the last report.

#### SAULT STE. MARIE

One post was identified referencing protests in Sault Ste. Marie, refer to Figure 5. This post suggested that aside from four individuals, there was no information of any sustained or planned protesting in Sault Ste. Marie.

<sup>1</sup> (U) Twitter Post from Personal Info. accessed 2022-02-11.



Figure 4: Post Referencing Protests in SSM<sup>4</sup>

#### KINGSTON

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

#### OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – YOW

No posts of concern were observed in relation to the Ottawa International Airport.

#### TORONTO PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – YYZ

No posts identified about any current or planned protests at the Toronto airport. Previous post on Twitter advertising nation-wide airport protests appears to have been removed.

#### STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

- The volume of information in relation to the Windsor POE is quite large with several updates and discussions posted per minute.
- Continue monitoring of the situation at Ambassador bridge is warranted given the injunction has been granted.



## LIIMITATIONS

Although effort has been made to review all publicly visible social media and web sources for information relevant to this brief, the absence of threat information herein should not be taken as an exhaustive examination of potential threats. A large volume of information is available online and constantly evolving.

## DISSEMINATION

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OPP Project HENDON

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- <sup>i</sup> (U) CBC News, "Court grants injunction against Ambassador Bridge blockade," <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/ambassador-bridge-injunction-ruling-1.6348767>, accessed 2022-02-11.
- <sup>ii</sup> (U) Twitter Post from [Personal Info.] accessed 2022-02-11.
- <sup>iii</sup> (U) YouTube Channel "The Transporter", <http://youtube.com/watch?v=nR3w2Hygqrs>, accessed 2022-02-11.
- <sup>iv</sup> (U) Twitter Post from [Personal Info.] accessed 2022-02-11.
- <sup>v</sup> (U) Twitter post from [Personal Info.] accessed 2022-02-11.